

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/614,979

Examiner

James L Habermehl

Applicant(s)

KRAUSE ET AL.

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 14 Mar 05.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-19, renumbered 1-2,4,3,5-9,13,10,15,12,14,11, and 16-18 respectively.
3. The drawings filed on 08 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
 Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
 of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
 Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other ____.

1. This Office action is in response to amendment filed 14 March 2004, which papers have been placed of record in the file.

2. Claims 1-4 and 6-19 are allowed over the prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method of testing a head gimbal assembly comprising performing the measurement by means of a laser measurement system, as presented in the environment of claim 1. It is noted that the closest prior art, Ding et al., shows head gimbal assembly testing similar to the claimed invention. However, Ding et al. fails to disclose performing the measurement by means of a laser measurement system as claimed.

Claim 9 is allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a system for testing a head gimbal assembly comprising means for inputting a control command to perform a long seek operation and means for measuring a mechanical frequency response of the head gimbal assembly, as described in Figures 3-5 and pp. 8-10 and presented in the environment of claim 9. It is noted that the closest prior art, Ding et al., shows head gimbal assembly testing similar to the claimed invention. However, Ding et al. fails to disclose means for inputting a control command to perform a long seek operation and means for measuring a mechanical frequency response of the head gimbal assembly as described in Figures 3-5 and pp. 8-10 and as claimed.

Claim 18 is allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a head gimbal assembly comprising a

trimming element for adjusting a mechanical property in order to make a frequency response of the head gimbal assembly approximate to a master frequency response, as presented in the environment of claim 18. It is noted that the closest prior art, Chen et al., shows load beam fabrication trimming similar to the claimed invention. However, Chen et al. fails to disclose a head gimbal assembly comprising a trimming element for adjusting a mechanical property in order to make a frequency response of the head gimbal assembly approximate to a master frequency response as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James L Habermehl whose telephone number is (571)272-7556. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on (571)272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JLH
Habermehl/jlh
11 Apr 05

✓
DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600